



#188
12/17/03
A.W.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: T.W. Bish et al. Examiner: Mohammad Ali
Serial No.: 09/436,506 Group Art Unit: 2177
Filed: November 9, 1999 Docket No.: TU999036
TITLE: METHOD, SYSTEM, AND PROGRAM FOR ACCESSING DATA FROM
STORAGE SYSTEMS

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 5, 2003.

David W. Victor

AMENDMENT SUBMITTED WITH REQUEST FOR
CONTINUED REEXAMINATION (RCE)

RECEIVED

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DEC 11 2003
Technology Center 2100

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is submitted concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination in response to the Final Office Action dated August 5, 2003 and Advisory Action dated November 24, 2003, in which the Examiner rejected claims 1-27 as obvious (35 U.S.C. §103) in view of cited prior art. Applicants have amended certain claims to distinguish over the cited art and traverse the prior art rejections with respect the pending claims, including amended claims, and submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed herein.

Amendment to the claims begins on page 2.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9.